AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-16 (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) A method for remote control of a user station using a smart card via an internet-type network, said user station being equipped with a smart card reader and comprising a first communication protocol stack, said smart card reader comprising a second communication protocol stack and said smart card comprising a third communication protocol stack, allowing communications between said user station and a remote server connected to said network and communications between said user station and said smart card via said smart card reader, said user station also comprising means for generating requests transmitted to said remote server, said method comprising:

- storing in said remote server data and/or instructions in a first preliminary phase for allowing the generation of specific commands upon reception of specific requests originating from said request generating means of said user station and transmission of said specific commands to said user station;

- loading into said user station in a second preliminary phase a piece of specialized software forming an interface distinct from a web browser between said first and second protocol stacks, said piece of specialized software being designed to translate said specific

commands received by said user station into commands that conform to a first given communication protocol to which said smart card is responsive, said first given communication protocol being used between the smart card reader and the smart card to allow said smart card to perform operations in response to said specific commands after translation to said first given communication protocol by said piece of specialized software;

and at least the following steps:

a/ transmitting to said remote server at least one specific request;

b/ generating by said remote server, upon reception of said specific request, at least one of said specific commands and transmitting said at least one of said specific commands to said user station using a second given communication protocol;

c/ receiving said transmitted specific command in said user station, said reception step of said transmitted specific command using said piece of specialized software to intercept said specific command prior to the uppermost application layer represented by the web browser and to translate said specific command into a translated command that conforms to said first given communication protocol to which said smart card is responsive;

d/ using said piece of specialized software to transmit said translated command to said smart card, via said smart card reader; and

e/ activating at least one given function of at least one application stored in said smart card, in response to~~by~~ said translated command in order to perform said control of the user station.

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein said data and/or instructions are stored in said remote server and allowing the generation of specific commands comprising smart card context data, said context data being a representation, in the memory of said remote server, of said smart card present in said user station.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18, wherein said smart card is controlled by an operating system associated with a version number, and said context data comprises at least data for identifying said version number of the operating system.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein said specific commands are the result of the execution of a CGI type script in said remote server.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein said piece of specialized software is loaded into said user station during said first preliminary phase, from a data recording medium.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein said piece of specialized software is downloaded into said user station during said first preliminary phase, from a remote server, via said internet network.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein said first given communication protocol is of the TCP/IP type.

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein said second given communication protocol conforms to ISO standards 7816-1 through 7816-4.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, further comprising, subsequent to activating said at least one given function, the steps of:

f/ transmitting data and/or instructions between said smart card and said terminal, via said smart card reader, said transmission being performed using said first given communication protocol;

g/ translating said data and/or instructions by said piece of specialized software and transmitting the same to said remote server, using said second given communication protocol;

h/ processing said data and/or instructions by said remote server;

i/ generating by said remote server data for identifying a configuration of said smart card and/or of an application stored in said smart card, and for the transmission of said characteristic data to said terminal using a third given communication protocol; and

j/ displaying said characteristic data on a display screen connected to said terminal.

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said request generating means is constituted by a web type browser, and further comprising storing in said remote server in a third preliminary phase data constituting static display pages, and

subsequent steps comprising transmitting upon reception of specific requests generated by said browser, all or some of said static display page data to said terminal in order to display pages of information associated with said smart card on said display screen.

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 26, further comprising generating, by means of said browser, in a fourth preliminary phase a particular request transmitted to a remote server connected to said internet network, in order to download a particular piece of software called an applet into the browser, so as to automate all or some of said steps a/ through j/.

28. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 27, wherein said applet is written in JAVA language.

29. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said third given communication protocol is of the HTTP type.

30. (Currently Amended) A system architecture for remote control of a user station using a smart card via an internet-type network, said user station being equipped with a smart card reader and comprising a first communication protocol stack, said smart card reader comprising a second communication protocol stack and said smart card comprising a third communication protocol stack, allowing communications between said user station and a remote server connected to said network and communications between said user station and said smart card via said smart card reader, said user station also comprising means for

generating requests transmitted to said remote server, wherein said remote server comprises a storage device for storing data and/or instructions allowing the generation of specific commands upon reception of specific requests originating from said request generating means and transmission to said user station, and in that said user station comprises a specialized module forming an interface distinct from a web browser between said first and second protocol stacks, said specialized module ~~being adapted~~configured to intercept prior to the uppermost application layer represented by the web browser said specific commands and to translate said specific commands from said remote server that are received by said user station in conformity with a first given communication protocol into translated commands that conform to a second given communication protocol to which said smart card is responsive and can be transmitted using said second given communication protocol via said smart card reader to said smart card, so as to activate, in response to receiving said specific commands from said remote server, at least one given function of at least one application stored in said smart card in response to said translated commands, after translation of said specific commands received from said remote server to said second given communication protocol by said specialized module.

31. (Previously Presented) A system architecture according to claim 30, wherein said remote server further comprises an HTTP server, a first storage device for storing said data and/or instructions allowing the generation of specific commands, and a second storage device for storing data constituting display pages in HTML language.

32. (Previously Presented) A smart card demonstrator, using the system architecture according to claim 30, said user station comprising a display screen for displaying data transmitted by said remote server to said specialized module and characteristic data of a context of said smart card, using a third given communication protocol, said characteristic data being generated by said remote server upon reception of data sent by said smart card, using said second given communication protocol, translated by said specialized module and transmitted to said remote server using said first given communication protocol.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein said piece of specialized software forms an interface with upper protocol layers of the user station and intercepts said specific command received in user station at an upper layer C4 corresponding to a transport (TCP) layer.

34. (Previously Presented) A system architecture according to claim 31, wherein said piece of specialized software is adapted to form an interface with upper protocol layers of the user station and intercepts said specific commands received in user station at an upper layer C4 corresponding to a transport (TCP) layer.